

Office of the Commission on Police Practices

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Memorializing SDPD Response to Body Worn Camera Recommendations

On June 24, 2021, the Commission on Police Practices submitted a [memo](#) regarding our concern of officers failing to activate their body worn cameras (BWCs) in line with procedure. The Commission made five recommendations.

During the July 27, 2021 Open Session of the Commission, Executive Assistant Chief Chris McGrath verbally reported the status of those recommendations.

([Recording of the Commission on Police Practices Open Session Meeting on 7/27/2021](#), BWC responses begin at time stamp 1:48:05)

Recommendation 1: Command Staff shall perform a roll call/line up training within the next 30 days reminding officers of the BWC requirements on when recording shall start.

SDPD Response: Implemented and completed by Friday, August 6, 2021.

Recommendation 2: Issue a training bulletin to all SDPD staff reminding of the requirements set forth in Procedure 1.49.

SDPD Response: Implemented.

The Department will actually go beyond this recommendation and has created an instructional video which all officers will be required to sign off saying they've viewed and understand the BWC policy.

Recommendation 3: Include mandatory BWC training in all department regular Advanced Officer Training (AOT) training (every 2 years).

SDPD Response: Will implement/in process.

AOT training has to be sent to POST one year in advance, so we missed this next rotation. But mandatory BWC training will be included in training going forward.

Recommendation 4: Supervisory command staff shall audit compliance by physically reviewing BWC videos, rather than just confirming X number of videos aligns with X number of enforcement contacts during a shift.

SDPD Response: (Details confirmed after the meeting.) Unable to implement.

Due to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SDPD, the SDPOA and the City, Command staff cannot proactively view BWCs absent a complaint or justified reason to review BWC footage.

Recommendation 5: Consider incentives for officers that consistently and properly follow BWC procedures.

SDPD Response: Will not be implemented.

The Department does not provide incentives for officers performing their job as required.

Resources:

July 27, 2021 Open Session CPP Meeting Recording

June 24, 2021 CPP Memo “Concern Regarding Officers Failing to Activate Body Worn Cameras”